

## DRESSER LUGGAGE

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1     1.     Field of the Invention:

2  
3           The present invention relates to the field of travel luggage,  
4     and more specifically concerns luggage that provides maximum  
5     increase in capacity during a trip, allows it to be combined with  
6     numerous other bags in a manageable fashion using an integral  
7     luggage cart, but still is adapted by reason of size for use with  
8     travel on commercial airliners. The airlines have rules that allow  
9     luggage of a certain maximum size to be checked when checking in at  
10    curbside or at the ticket counter. At present the size limitation  
11    is a combined dimension not to exceed 63 inches. The luggage of  
12    the present invention is sized to meet, but not exceed, that  
13    maximum size permitted by the airlines under the present rules.  
14    Notwithstanding its size, however, the inventive luggage is capable  
15    of being handled readily by one person and can be pulled using its  
16    unique variable position handle and large wheels or pushed using  
17    its large wheels and smaller wheels that are a part of the  
18    telescoping integral luggage cart. Alternatively, any additional  
19    bags may be accommodated using the telescoping integral luggage  
20    cart.

21    2.     Description of the prior art:

22           Over the decades since travel by jet airliners became common  
23    place, the luggage manufacturing industry has created product  
24    designs that accommodate numerous different purposes, but still fit  
25    within the rules established by the airlines. These include size  
26    limitations for checked baggage, which the inventive luggage is

1 designed to meet despite its substantial capacity and capacity for  
2 substantial expansion during the course of a journey.

3 The present invention includes numerous additional features.  
4 The interior comprises, in part, a plurality of smaller bags,  
5 preferably three, that can act as the drawers of a dresser on  
6 removable shelves disposed on zippered connectors on the interior  
7 sidewalls of the outer luggage. These bags have removable covers  
8 to facilitate using them as drawers in the chest of drawers  
9 configuration. These bags can also be removed to double the  
10 capacity of the luggage for the return trip, or increase it by  
11 either two-thirds or one-third. Transporting these additional bags  
12 is made convenient because of the large sized telescoping integral  
13 luggage cart with steerable wheels alluded to earlier. Other  
14 features include an externally accessible freshen kit, a small  
15 externally accessible drawer, coat hooks on the handle, externally  
16 visible identification plaques on both front and back, a swiveling  
17 handle bar on the handle to make a temporary closet bar, large curb  
18 climbing wheels, an integral fold out table, an externally visible  
19 large figure digital travel alarm clock, an externally accessible  
20 pouch, and the like.

21 None of the references disclosed by a prior art search  
22 commissioned by the inventor combines significant numbers of the  
23 inventive features. However, one feature that is quite common in  
24 the prior art is the concept of using a chest of drawers in  
25 combination with luggage. See for example, Betts, U.S. Patent No.  
26 2,891,639, Madison, U.S. Design Patent No. Des. 317,082, Blevins,

1 U.S. Design Patent No. Des. 315,986, Mayer, U.S. Patent No.  
2 3,891,230, Tullis, et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,974,898, Goldstone,  
3 U.S. Patent No. 4,813,521, Hawley, U.S. Patent No. 4,966,258 and  
4 Disney, U.S. Patent No. 1,609,348. Also some interest is Buchek,  
5 U.S. Patent No. 4,066,155.

6 Various kinds of luggage carts and trolleys are shown by other  
7 prior art references, although none duplicate the capacity and  
8 simplicity of that aspect of the present invention. Examples of  
9 these prior art references include Cassimally, U.S. Patent No.  
10 3,960,252, Cassimally, et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,273,222, Williams,  
11 et al. U.S., Patent No. 4,538,709 and Thomas, U.S. Patent No.  
12 4,792,025.

13 Several references show handles that bear superficial  
14 resemblance to the handle of the present invention, and these are  
15 Dababneh, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. U.S. 2003/0132080  
16 A1 and Sadow, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. U.S.  
17 2003/0085540 A1. However, neither of these references show more  
18 than one or two features of the handle on the present invention.

19 Further references show various single aspects of the present  
20 invention. A first examples is Thomas, U.S. Patent No. 4,609,084  
21 showing retrieval of what could be a freshen kit from a pre-  
22 determined location. Pohl, U.S. Patent Application Publication No.  
23 U.S. 2002/0195303 A1 teaches a table and combination with the  
24 luggage, as does Lee, U.S. Patent No. 5,941,352 and Martin, U.S.  
25 Patent No. 5,437,367. Kinzer, et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,076,641  
26 teaches large curb climbing wheels. Gibley, U.S. Patent No.

1 5,056,695 teaches an identifying license plate in combination with  
2 luggage art, and Baker, U.S. Patent No. 4,647,056 shows a clock in  
3 combination with luggage.

4  
5 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

6 Bearing in mind the foregoing, it is a principal object of the  
7 present invention to provide a large capacity piece of luggage that  
8 provides a plurality of passenger convenience features, none of  
9 which all found in a single prior art reference.

10 Another principal object of the present invention is to  
11 provide a piece of luggage that has greatly expandable capacity  
12 through the use of interior bags with removable covers that act as  
13 drawers and can be taken out of the dresser luggage, the covers  
14 replaced to convert them to luggage again, to carry additional  
15 items in excess of those which are placed in the parent bag after  
16 the removal of these other bags.

17 A related object of the present invention is to equip the  
18 interior of the parent bag with removable shelves that have  
19 zippered connections to the side walls of said bag to support the  
20 drawers.

21 A further object of the invention is to provide an integral  
22 large capacity telescoping luggage cart with steerable wheels for  
23 the carrying of additional bags.

24 An additional object of the invention is to provide a multi-  
25 function variable position handle that can be use for pulling or  
26 pushing the invention, has clothing hooks disposed thereon, and has

1 a swing out member that can be used as a closet bar to hang  
2 clothing thereupon.

3 Another object of the invention is to provide an integral fold  
4 out table stored beneath the cover of the dresser luggage.

5 Other objects of the invention are to provide an externally  
6 accessible freshen kit and utility drawer in combination with the  
7 foregoing objects and advantages.

8 A further object of the invention is to provide an externally  
9 visible large figure digital travel alarm clock flush with the  
10 external surface of the luggage.

11 An additional object of the invention is to provide large curb  
12 climbing wheels in combination with the foregoing.

13 Another object of the invention is to provide luggage  
14 containing the foregoing features with externally visible  
15 identification plaques.

16 One more object of the invention is to provide a storage pouch  
17 on the exterior of the dresser luggage for quick storage of small  
18 flat items such as magazines and newspapers.

19 Other objects and advantages will become apparent to those  
20 skilled in the art upon referenced to the following descriptions  
21 and the appended drawings.

22 In accordance with a principal aspect of the present  
23 invention, there is provided large capacity luggage that complies  
24 with the maximum size requirements of the airlines. The invention  
25 includes a plurality of user convenience features. Among these are  
26 a variable position handle with infinite variations that can be

1 used to either pull or push the luggage on two large curb climbing  
2 wheels. In addition, the handle can rotate in a horizontal plane  
3 from one of its supporting vertical members to provide a closet rod  
4 for hanging clothes from hangers. The handle also includes hooks  
5 to hang clothes from. A further aspect of the invention includes  
6 a telescoping integral luggage cart with steerable auxiliary  
7 wheels. Other features include fixed, but removable identification  
8 plaques that are externally visible, an externally visible large  
9 figure digital travel alarm clock, an integral fold out table  
10 disposed within the cover of the luggage and supported thereby, and  
11 an externally accessible freshen kit and utility drawer. The  
12 invention further includes a chest of drawers feature which allows  
13 interior bags to be used either as drawers or to be removable from  
14 the parent bag and used as separate luggage to double the capacity  
15 of the original piece of luggage. Finally, on the back of the  
16 luggage is a pouch type of an enclosure similar to that which are  
17 on the backs of front car seats which may be accessed from the  
18 upper side to store a newspaper, magazines and the like.

#### 19 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

20 Various other objects, advantages and features of the present  
21 invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art from the  
22 following description taken in conjunction with the appended  
23 drawings, in which:

24 Figure 1 is a front overhead perspective view of the present  
25 invention showing its variable position handle in its rest  
26 position.

1        Figure 2 is a rear overhead perspective view showing the  
2        variable position handle in a vertical position.

3        Figure 3 is a rear elevational view of the invention with  
4        insets that enlarge two of its features.

5        Figure 4 is a front overhead perspective view of the present  
6        invention illustrating a third use of the variable position handle  
7        as a closet rod.

8        Figure 5 is a front elevational view of the invention with its  
9        front opened revealing its chest of drawers internal structure and  
10       integral fold out table.

11       Figure 6 is a right side elevational view of the present  
12       invention showing the deployment of the integral fold out table and  
13       the middle drawer opened.

14       Figure 7 is a front overhead perspective view of the invention  
15       as shown in figure 5 illustrating the structure and support of the  
16       integral fold out table.

17       Figure 8 features the zip out shelves that support the drawers  
18       in the chest, but are removable when the parent dresser luggage is  
19       desired to be used without dividers.

20       Figure 9 shows how the large wheels facilitate climbing curbs.

21       Figures 10A and 10B are left side elevational views showing  
22       the luggage in its normal vertical configuration contrasting with  
23       deployment of the telescoping integral luggage cart having  
24       steerable wheels.

25       Figure 11 is a front overhead perspective view of the fully  
26       deployed telescoping integral luggage cart seen in figure 10B.

1        Figure 12 is a left side elevational view of the fully  
2        deployed telescoping integral luggage cart as seen in figure 10B  
3        except for a substantial number of additional bags being  
4        accommodated thereon.

5        Figure 13 is a front overhead perspective view which  
6        illustrates the storage and removal of the externally accessible  
7        freshen kit with the kit itself shown in perspective view in the  
8        inset beneath which are front elevational and side elevational  
9        views thereof.

10       Figure 14 is also an overhead front perspective view featuring  
11       the opened externally accessible utility drawer.

12       Figure 15 is a left side elevational view of the inventive  
13       luggage being pulled by a traveler and illustrates use of the rear  
14       mounted pouch.

15       Finally, figure 16 is a front overhead perspective view  
16       showing three internal drawers being used as three separate  
17       suitcases and illustrating the capacity of the luggage can be  
18       increased by one-third, two-thirds or even doubled.

#### 19       DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

20       As required, detailed embodiments of the present invention are  
21       disclosed herein; however, it is to be understood that the  
22       disclosed embodiments are merely exemplary of the invention which  
23       may be embodied in various forms. Therefore, specific structural  
24       and functional details disclosed herein are not to be interpreted  
25       as limiting, but merely as a basis for the claims and as a  
26       representative basis for teaching one that is skilled in the art to



1 variously employ the present invention in virtually any  
2 appropriately detailed structure.

3 Reference is now made to the drawings, wherein like  
4 characteristics and features of the present invention are shown in  
5 the various figures and designated by the same referenced numerals.

6 Figure 1 is a front overhead perspective view of the preferred  
7 embodiment of the present invention 10 in an upright and closed  
8 configuration. Seen are top side wall 12, top fixed handle 14,  
9 infinitely variable position handle 16, pivoting cross bar 18,  
10 right side wall 20, side handle 22, externally accessible utility  
11 drawer 24, zippered freshen kit closure 26, and hard surfaced and  
12 zippered main compartment closure 28. Externally accessible  
13 utility drawer 24 is lockable, but the locking means are  
14 conventional and not shown. Main compartment closure 28 is a  
15 pivotally attached to the invention 10 at hinge 30. Inventive  
16 dresser luggage 10 is transportable using a pair of large diameter  
17 wide track rubber covered wheels 32 with steel rims which are  
18 recessed into wheel wells and flush with the outer side surface of  
19 dresser luggage 10 at 34. A further feature visible in figure 1 is  
20 a fixed position, but removable, name, address and telephone number  
21 front identification plaque 36 which is preferably permanently  
22 embossed, surrounded by protective ridge 38 and which can only be  
23 removed using fasteners 40.

24 Figure 2 is a rear overhead perspective of the inventive  
25 dresser luggage 10 showing its variable position handle 16 in a  
26 vertical position and supported by left vertical member 42 and

1 right vertical member 44 which connect to pivoting cross bar 18.  
2 The pivoting cross bar has locking means (not shown) which allow  
3 variable position handle to be located and locked into position at  
4 any location. An alternative location for pushing rather than  
5 pulling luggage as illustrated in figure 12. Also seen in this  
6 rear view are rear identification plaque 46, left sidewall 48, rear  
7 sidewall 50, the latter supporting expandable pouch 52, and large  
8 figure digital travel alarm clock 56.

9 Figure 3 is a rear elevational view of the dresser luggage 10.  
10 Variable position handle 16 supported on pivoting cross bar 18 and  
11 in part by right vertical member 44. Variable position handle 16  
12 is the supporting means for coat hooks 54, the nature of which is  
13 readily seen in an enlarged view in the inset of figure 3A. Also  
14 seen in figure 3 is an externally visible large figure digital  
15 travel alarm clock 56. Also seen is rear identification plaque 46  
16 which is shown in the figure 3B inset to include name, address and  
17 telephone number, surrounded by protective ridge 38 and held by  
18 fasteners 40.

19 Figure 4 is an overhead front perspective view of dresser  
20 luggage 10, which shows that variable position handle 16, can  
21 rotate in a horizontal plane from right vertical member 44,  
22 separated from left vertical member 42, to become a temporary  
23 closet rod 58, supporting conventional wire hangers 60, on which  
24 are hung garments 62, while another garment 64, is hung on coat  
25 hook 54, as also seen commencing in figure 3.

1           Figure 5 shows that when main compartment closure 28 is opened  
2   it reveals a chest of drawers 68 each having individual handles 70.  
3   As will be later seen in regard to figure 16, each of these are  
4   individual suitcases whose tops are removable when they are used as  
5   drawers as seen in figure 5. Figure 5 also features the integral  
6   fold out table 72, supporting such things as garments 74 in close  
7   proximity to the chest of drawers 68. The integral fold out table  
8   72, is contained in the inner surface main compartment closure 28  
9   and has a supporting strut 76.

10          Integral fold out table 72 supporting garments 74 and its  
11   supporting strut 76, can be more readily seen in figure 6. Note  
12   that the user is reaching into drawer 68 to which is attached  
13   handle 70.

14          Figure 7 further illustrates the construction of integral fold  
15   out table 72 with supporting strut 76 all mounted to main  
16   compartment closure 28, all adjacent to chest of drawers 68 with  
17   individual handles 70.

18          Figure 8 shows chest of drawers 68 has been removed and that  
19   they are supported by individual shelves 78. Shelves 78 are  
20   removably connected to left sidewall 48 and right sidewall 20 using  
21   interior zipper track 80 and shelf zipper tract 82 which are  
22   selectively combined upon shelf 78 installation using zipper 84.

23          Figure 9 is to illustrate the curb climbing capability of the  
24   large wheels 32. Sidewalk 86 is separated from street 88 by curb  
25   90. Wheels 32 project outwardly from bottom 92 and also from back

1 panel 50 to facilitate the curb 90 climbing capability of the  
2 invention.

3 One of the unique features of the present invention 10 is a  
4 telescoping integral luggage cart that it is illustrated in both  
5 its recessed, figure 10A, and deployed, figure 10B modes. In  
6 figure 10A, the cart is nested in cavity 94, and is invisible  
7 except for cart wheel 96 and cart fender 98. When fully deployed  
8 as seen in figure 10B, cart wheel 96 and fender 98 represent the  
9 leading edge of the telescoping integral baggage cart 100 comprised  
10 of a plurality telescoping leaves, 102, 104, and 106. The  
11 telescoping integral luggage cart 100 is capable of being deployed  
12 as much as necessary up to its full length, not limited to three  
13 leaves as presently shown, but need be deployed only a lesser  
14 amount depending on the amount of additional luggage to be carried.  
15 See figure 12. In the mode shown in figure 12, the combination of  
16 the dresser luggage 10 and telescoping integral luggage cart 100  
17 designed to be pushed by the user as shown in figure 12, with the  
18 cart wheels 96 being steerable to accommodate going around corners  
19 by differential pressure being applied to handle 16.

20 Figure 11 is a front overhead perspective view of the dresser  
21 luggage 10 and fully deployed telescoping integral luggage cart 100  
22 showing the three telescoping leaves 102, 104, and 106. Also seen  
23 are fender 98 and a portion of cart wheel 96.

24 Figure 12, as alluded to above, shows the utilitarian nature  
25 of telescoping integral baggage cart 100 with four additional bags  
26 supported thereby. While the bags shown are various shapes, they

1 could just as well be bags that comprise the three drawers of  
2 figures 5 and 16.

3 Figure 13 features the freshen kit 108 that is externally  
4 accessible inside freshen kit closure 26. The inset to figure 13,  
5 shows an enlarged view of freshen kit 108 below which is an end  
6 view and a front view of same. Freshen kit 108 has a zippered  
7 closure 110 and its own handles 112 so that it readily can be  
8 carried to a restroom or bathroom separate from the dresser luggage  
9 10. Freshen kit 108 is often referred to as a "dopp kit" and  
10 contains toiletries and other cosmetic accessories.

11 Figure 14 shows the utility drawer 24 in an opened  
12 configuration. This drawer can be used for the storage of keys,  
13 cell phones, wallets, travel tickets, passports, etc. and is  
14 lockable by conventional means which are not shown.

15 Figure 15 shows that pouch 52 is expandable to accommodate a  
16 plurality of items, possibly including magazines and newspapers,  
17 travel documents, and tickets. These items are inserted into the  
18 top of pouch 52 in the same manner as the pocket on the back of an  
19 automobile car seat.

20 Turning finally to figure 16, the capability of doubling the  
21 cargo carrying capability is illustrated. The three drawers 68  
22 shown in figure 5 come equipped with tops 108 which are attachable  
23 to drawers 68 by zippered closures 110 to form three small  
24 suitcases 112, 114, and 116. The effect of this is to double the  
25 capacity of dresser luggage 10 while still having the capability  
26 using telescoping integral luggage cart 100 shown in figures 10B,

1 11, and 12 to keep all four bags together. Of course as  
2 illustrated in figure 8, shelves 78 are removable using zipper 84.  
3 Thus large items that would not fit in suitcases 112, 114, and 116  
4 can be disposed within dresser luggage 10.

5 While the invention has been described, disclosed, illustrated  
6 and shown in various terms or certain embodiments of modifications  
7 which has assumed in practice, the scope of the invention is not  
8 intended to be, nor should it be deemed to be, limited thereby and  
9 such other modifications or embodiments as may be suggested by the  
10 teachings herein are particularly reserved especially as they fall  
11 within the breadth and scope of the claims here appended.